

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 DRC-01 IO-04 /065 W

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R 161448Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 707

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINS

SUBJECT: MIR DEVELOPMENTS

REF: A) SANTIAGO 6263; B) SANTIAGO 6240; C) SANTIAGO 6221

1. SUMMARY: INTEREST CONTINUES HIGH IN EVENTS FOLLOWING OCT 5 DEATH OF EXTREMIST MOVEMENT OF REVOLUTIONARY LEFT (MIR) LEADER MIGUEL ENRIQUEZ AND EARLIER BANK ROBBERY, BUT THERE IS LITTLE HARD NEWS. GOC SHOWS CONCERN FOR HEALTH OF SERIOUSLY WOUNDED CARMEN CASTILLO (REF A), AND SECURITY FORCES ARE PICKING UP PEOPLE CONNECTED WITH HER. PRESS SPECULATION ON WHOM GOC HAS CAPTURED CONTINUES, BUT GOC HAS CLAMPED DOWN ON LEAKS. GOC SECRETARY GENERAL COL. PEDRO EWING SAID ONLY THAT SEVERAL HAVE BEEN DETAINED. ITALIAN EMBASSY ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAS 107 MORE ASYLEES, FOR TOTAL OF 180, WITHIN EMBASSY RESIDENCE CONFINES. GOC INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES HAVE RECOVERED ANOTHER 16 MILLION ESCUDOS FROM OCT 1 BANK ROBBERY. OCT 15 PRESS CARRIES REPORTS OF VIOLENT BATTLE BETWEEN EXTREMISTS AND AIR FORCE (FACH) SECURITY FORCES IN OUTSKIRTS OF SANTIAGO. END SUMMARY.

2. REF A REPORTS CONCERN EXPRESSED BY CHILEAN CHIEF OF STATE GENERAL PINOCHET FOR PHYSICAL CONDITION OF CARMEN CASTILLO, SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN OCT 5 SHOOTOUT WITH MIR. WE HAVE HEARD
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FROM CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (PDC) AND CHURCH SOURCES THAT

SECURITY FORCES ARE PICKING UP PEOPLE INCLUDED IN LIST (OR ADDRESS BOOK) IN CASTILLO'S POSSESSION AT TIME OF HER CAPTURE. SAME SOURCES SPECULATE SHE WILL BE RELEASED INTO EXILE AS SOON AS SHE CAN TRAVEL.

3. COL. EWING INFORMED PRESS OCT 14 THAT SOME BANK ROBBERS HAVE BEEN CAUGHT, BUT NAMES COULD NOT BE ANNOUNCED, SINCE IT WOULD OBSTRUCT PRESENT INVESTIGATION. PRESS IS FULL OF RUMORS, BUT IN ATTEMPT TO QUIET SPECULATION, DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGACIONES (PLAINCLOTHES POLICE) GEN. ERNESTO BAEZA SAID THERE IS NO OFFICIAL NEWS REGARDING BANK ROBBERY OR OCT 5 SHOOTOUT.

4. ITALIAN EMBASSY INFORMED CHILEAN FON MIN THAT THERE ARE PRESENTLY 107 NEW ASYLEES IN THE EMBASSY. ITALIAN NOTE FORMALLY REQUESTED SAFE CONDUCT PASSES FOR ALL. PRESS REPORTS STATE THE LIST OF 107 PRESENTED TO THE FON MIN ARE THOSE WHO HAVE ARRIVED SINCE FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, BRINGING TOTAL NOW WITHIN THE EMBASSY TO 180. THE 73 PERSONS WHO WERE PREVIOUSLY THERE MAY HAVE SAFE CONDUCT PASSES BUT HAVE NOT YET DEPARTED. REF B REPORTED THAT MIR LEADER HUMBERTO SOTOMAYOR IS AMONG 107.

5. COL. EWING ALSO ANNOUNCED OCT 14 THAT GOC HAD RECOVERED ANOTHER 16 MILLION ESCUDOS OF THE 37 STOLEN DURING OCT 1 BANK ROBBERY. THIS WOULD BRING AMOUNT RECOVERED TO 31 MILLION ESCUDOS. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS PRESS STORIES ON WHO ACTUALLY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ROBBERY. SOME RECENT ONES HAVE PLACED BLAME FOR BANK ROBBERY ON "VANGUARDIA ARMADA REVOLUCIONARIA" (VAR), AN EXTREMIST OFFSHOOT OF MIR.

6. OCT 15 PRESS REPORTS GUN BATTLE BETWEEN PERSONNEL OF THE CHILEAN AIR FORCE (FACH) AND "LEFTIST EXTREMISTS". FIGHT REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE OCT 14 IN COMMUNITY OF LA REINA ON EASTERN OUTSKIRTS OF SANTIAGO. PRESS DID NOT MENTION DEAD OR WOUNDED OR DESCRIBE WHO EXTREMISTS WERE, BUT DID SPECULATE TWO PERSONS WERE DETAINED.

7. COMMENT: EVENTS SURROUNDING OCT 1 BANK ROBBERY AND OCT 5 SHOOTOUT CONTINUE TO BE OF HIGH INTEREST AND SUBJECT OF NUMEROUS DAILY PRESS ARTICLES, BUT AUTHORITIES ARE NOW SAYING LITTLE. IT APPEARS SECURITY FORCES ARE MAKING HEADWAY IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DRIVE TO SURFACE ALL PERSONS INVOLVED IN RECENT EVENTS, BUT THEY ARE STILL LOOKING. ITALIAN PROBLEM WITH ASYLEES APPEARS TO BE CONTINUING WITHOUT LETUP.
POPPER

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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